

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application prior to entry of the present Amendment. Claims 1-7 and 9-12 have been canceled. Claims 13-16 have been added. Claims 8 and 13-16 remain pending after entry of the present Amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter: Claims 8 and 13-16

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 8 is allowable. The Examiner has stated that the prior art of record does not teach a method of fabricating a multi-component pattern comprising (a) defining a first set of regions of localized magnetic field maxima and minima on a substrate, and (b) applying magnetic nanoparticles to the substrate so that the magnetic nanoparticles aggregate on the first set of regions of localized magnetic field maxima and avoid regions of localized magnetic field minima, as recited in the first two steps of claim 8.

In view of the foregoing, claim 13 has been added to recite only steps (a) and (b) of original claim 8. Claim 14 has been added to depend from claim 13 and to further recite step (c). Claim 15 has been added to depend from claim 14 and to further recite steps (d), (e), and (f). Claim 16 has been added to depend from claim 15 and to further recite step (g).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 and 13-16 are in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection: Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected as anticipated by 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by US 2004/0150865 to Chen et al. ("Chen"). Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection: Claims 2-7 and 9-12

Claims 2-7 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Chen in view of US 6,984,265 to Raguse et al. ("Raguse"). Although not specifically addressed in the Office Action, Applicants understand claims 9-12 to also be rejected as obvious over Chen in view of Raguse. Claims 2-7 and 9-12 have been canceled without prejudice.

Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 and 13-16 are now in condition for allowance. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,
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